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REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 9-11, and 17 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1-4 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claim 9 was allowed, claims 10 and 17 were rejected, and claim 11 was objected to. With this Amendment, claims 9, 11, and 17 were amended, and claims 1-4 and 10 were canceled. Accordingly, upon entry of this Amendment claims 9, 11, and 17 will be pending in the above-identified application. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowability of claims 9, 11, and 17.

Enclosed is a Credit Card Payment Form authorizing payment of the fees for a one month extension of time.

The Specification

The Abstract of the Disclosure has been amended to be drawn to the claimed invention.

Section 112

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of rejection of claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Claim 17 has been amended to recite that each of the lower refractive index layers is SiO₂ and each of the higher refractive index layers is Nb₂O₅. Applicants submit that Claim 17, as amended, particularly points out and distinctly claims the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention, and is therefore definite. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Section 112 rejection be withdrawn.

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Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that there is any issue which could be resolved by a telephone or personal interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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